

HUMBIE, EAST AND WEST SALTOUN AND BOLTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the 331st MEETING of the Humble, East and West Saltoun and Bolton Community Council held on WEDNESDAY 7th October 2020 on Zoom 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mrs R Greenhill (RG) Chair
Mrs M Hodge (MH) - Treasurer
Mr F Kirwan (FK)
Mrs S Jamieson (SJ)
Mr I Galloway (IG)
Mrs B Roberts (BR)
Cllr J McMillan (JMc)
Cllr C Hoy (CH)
Cllr S Ahktar (SA)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Apologies were received from Cllr T Trotter (TT), PC C Boyd (CB) as unable to connect via Zoom.

INTRODUCTION

The sad passing of Al Beck and Derek Smith, both long-standing members, was noted. It was suggested that the CC might fund an award in Ross High in Derek's name. MH agreed to write an exploratory email to Head Master. It was also noted that the CC might contribute to the cost of the memorial bench for Al. IG noted that care should be taken when deciding what to fund given that there was an outstanding request for assistance to install a bench in East Saltoun. SA agreed to provide details of the appropriate contact for bench-related matters in ELC to IG.

Action: MH to contact Head Master of Ross High
Action: SA to provide details of contact for bench

MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed subject to two amendments:

- BR had reported the potholes under item 10 under Transport.
- A grant for £150 had been offered to Saltoun Kirk rather than £200.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- No conflict of interest was declared

MATTERS ARISING

1. A site meeting had been held with Tom Reid to discuss the speed limit in Humble and a temporary 30 mph limit will be introduced in Humble for hopefully a period of 18 months starting in November. During that period, data will be collected on the speed of traffic with a recommendation being made at the end of the period on whether to make the 30mph permanent.
2. It was noted that the speed data had been provided. SA offered to send it again.

3. In discussion it was noted that rationale for reducing 30mph speed limits to 20mph under the spaces for people initiative was not understood. It seemed to be haphazard and didn't cover all villages with 30mph limits. JMc noted that there was no intention to extend this programme. JMc would seek clarification on why Bolton had not been included. CH would establish whether/what further Spaces for People initiatives were planned.

Action: SA to resend speed data

Action: JMcM to clarify why Bolton has not been included

Action: CH to establish whether/what further SFP initiatives planned.

FINANCE

1. MH noted that the Community Council's funds stand at £5,504.68. This excludes a provision of £2k for Fletcher Hall.
2. MH noted that the Community Council had paid Saltoun Kirk £150.

TRANSPORT

This item was covered in matters arising.

PLANNING

1 **Windymains** – RG noted that Windymains have provided the CC with copies of all planning materials including traffic data. Windymains have again advised hauliers against transiting through Humbie and provided a written warning to hauliers that any vehicles caught speeding will be denied access to site. The CC will not object to the application. RG had acknowledged the email and thanked the consultants. CH requested that the email be forwarded to him.

Action: RG to forward Windymains email

2. **Bolton Muir Woods** – SJ noted that a letter of objection had been sent regarding the first planning application for a hut. She thanked everyone for their rapid response to the draft. She noted that the CC is now a statutory consultee for Bolton Muir – there is now a second hut application. A response is due by 16th October.

SJ noted that she had been researching hutting sites and has noted that most have management committees who set 'housekeeping policies' (e.g. land use, planting, waste and water disposal, parking). There is no similar governance structure in Bolton Muir with consequent risk of widely differing practices by individual plot owners in what, unlike most other hutting locations, is classed as 'ancient woodland'. While the Scottish Government has a formal 'hutting initiative' ELC does not yet have a hutting policy and it remains unclear whether DC1 sanctions hutting. JMc would speak to Keith Dingwall on the matter and arrange meeting with RG and SJ.

Action: JMc to arrange meeting regarding Bolton Muir Wood

Action: SJ and RG to draft response to second application for hut in Bolton Muir Wood

AREA PARTNERSHIP

1. No recent meetings had been held. The meeting held in September had been a meeting of the subcommittee. JMc confirmed that no decisions had been taken and that all current applications are apparently on hold unless they related to the pandemic. RG noted that the decision to hold applications had not been communicated widely and seems to have been decided by a sub-committee rather than the full membership. JMc would seek an explanation.

Action: JMCM to seek answers to lack of communication from the AP to CCs.

CORRESPONDENCE

AELCC meeting proposed for November. RG would endeavour to attend.

POLICE REPORT

1. The cut-out cops seem to have disappeared. RG noted that these had been bought by this CC but were being used throughout the ward by the police. CH would clarify with the police where the cut-out cops have gone and when they will be deployed in our communities.
2. Police report would be circulated.

Action: CH to contact police about cut-out cops
Action: RG to circulate police report.

CC WEBSITE

1. IG reported that the CC Website is now separate from that of Saltoun Community Association. IG sought photographs and other material on projects which the CC has funded or supported; and got positive feedback on creating a 'News' page to publicise the issues on which the CC is engaging and improve its transparency. All minutes from previous meetings would also be uploaded.
2. It was agreed that the website should also post tributes to Al and Derek.

Action: RG to provide minutes to previous meetings to IG
Action: All to provide photographs

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

CC membership – The vacancies caused by the death of Al and Derek were discussed. CH noted that George Rapson was keen to join. It was agreed that notification of the vacancies should be placed on the website and in community emails.

EL Bus Forum – the next scheduled meeting is in early December. Issues arising about the route and schedule for the 109 can be placed on the agenda if required.

New Head Teacher for Humbie and East Saltoun – Deborah Crossan, the current deputy head of Newtongrange Primary has been appointed to the post.

ELC committee proceedings – recordings of meetings are now available on the ELC website.

Duke of Edinburgh volunteering – IG is seeking opportunities for two residents. IG to send details to JMcM. RG also noted that Amisfield Garden could provide opportunities.

Local Priorities – BR sought reactions to the Bolton community purchasing, taxing and insuring two vehicles to be permanently parked at either end of the village as informal ‘speed reduction measures’. JMc would raise the issue with Alan Stubbs. It was also suggested that advice should be sought from the police.

Action: IG to send details to JMcM about DoE requests.

Action: JMcM to raise speed reduction measures with Alan Stubbs

Action: BR to raise the issue with PC Boyd.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the above will be held on **WEDNESDAY 4th November 2020** – venue or zoom to be agreed in the light of prevailing guidance and personal circumstances.